Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 03057 01 OF 02 290001Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 HA-05 /105 W
----------008602 290010Z /13
R 282356Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2720
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03057

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNSC, BG, JA, US
SUBJECT: BANGLADESH CANDIDACY FOR SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT

REF: STATE 189826

1. POLMIN HAD LUNCH JULY 25 WITH JAPANESE MISSION MINISTER KATO AND TWO OTHER JUN OFFICERS. THE CONVERSATION GENERALLY WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF REVIEWING THE MAJOR SUBJECTS LIKELY TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE SCHEDULED US-JAPAN BILATERAL IN TOKYO JULY 31 TO AUGUST 1. THE SUBJECT OF JAPAN'S COMPETITION WITH BANGLADESH FOR THE ASIAN SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT THIS YEAR WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERESTS OF THE JUN OFFICERS.

2. KATO SAID THE JAPANESE OBJECTIVE OF A LARGER AND MORE MEANINGFUL ROLE IN THE UN WAS NOW A BASIC PART OF THE POLICY INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED TO JUN AND OTHER MISSIONS AROUND THE WORLD. JAPAN IS SERIOUS ABOUT PRESSING ITS CANDIDACY FOR A RETURN TO THE COUNCIL THIS YEAR. IT INTENDS TO FORCE THE COMPETITION WITH BANGLADESH INTO A VOTE BY THE UN MEMBERSHIP IF NECESSARY. FOR THAT PURPOSE, AS IS WELL-KNOWN IN THE UN COMMUNITY, JAPAN HAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 03057 01 OF 02 290001Z

LAUNCHED AN ALL-OUT LOBBYING EFFORT.

3. KATO SAID BANGLADESH IS ACHIEVING GOOD RESULTS THUS FAR IN ITS OWN LOBBYING CAMPAIGN. THE PRINCIPAL BASIS FOR THIS SUCCESS IS BANGLADESH'S LEVERAGE IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. JAPAN BELIEVES BANGLADESH IS WORKING HARD IN THE CORRIDORS AT BELGRADE AND PROBABLY WILL COME AWAY WITH AT

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

LEAST INFORMAL ENDORSEMENT OR SYMPATHETIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE BANGLADESH CASE. JAPAN OF COURSE IS SENSITIVE ABOUT MOVING HARD AGAINST NON-ALIGNED PREDISPOSITIONS,ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE PURELY POLITICAL AFFINITY OF THE NAM WILL IN THE END DETERMINE ALL OF THE VOTES OF THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS.

3. KATO DELICATELY AVOIDED BEING DRAWN OUT ON THE ARGUMENTS BEING USED BY JAPAN IN ITS CAMPAIGN. SEVERAL REMARKS HE MADE, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT JAPAN INTENDS TO USE ITS CAPACITY FOR TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO LEAN ON A NUMBER OF KEY THIRD WORLD CAPITALS. KATO SAID THAT WHILE THE INITIAL REPORTS INDICATED CONSIDERABLE BANGLADESH SUCCESS, JAPAN IS CONFIDENT THAT AS EVENTS MOVE INTO THE UNGA AND CLOSER TO THE TIME OF THE ELEC-TIONS, THE PERCEPTION OF VOTING INTENTIONS WILL SWING IN JAPAN'S FAVOR. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE COMPETITION IS LIKELY TO BE STIFF AND TO CREATE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF AWKWARDNESS FOR JAPAN. HE REMARKED THAT THE JAPANESE DO NOT FEEL AT ALL COMFORTABLE AT THIS PROSPECT, BUT THEY ARE DETERMINED TO PRESS AHEAD.

4. KATO SAID THEIR PRINCIPAL FOCUS AT THE MOMENT IS THEIR APPROACHES TO THE WESTERN EUROPEANS. THEY HAVE RECEIVED DISTURBING INDICATIONS THAT THE WEO GROUP IS INFLUENCED BY THE EFFECT OF ITALY'S DESIRE TO RETURN TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 03057 01 OF 02 290001Z

THE COUNCIL AGAIN THIS YEAR. ACCORDING TO THE JAPANESE INFORMATION, THE BANGLADESHI ARE HAVING SOME SUCCESS IN PLAYING ON A EUROPEAN PREDISPOSITION AGAINST THE ITALIAN CANDIDACY. THE BANGLADESH ARGUMENT IS THAT COUNTRIES LIKE ITALY AND JAPAN SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED SPECIAL PROMI-NENCE IN THE ROTATION OF REGIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL SEATS. ALTHOUGH POLMIN QUESTIONED THE JAPANESE ANALYSIS OF CURRENT EUROPEAN ATTITUDES TOWARD JAPAN, KATO WAS FAIRLY FIRM IN HIS BELIEF THAT JAPAN FACES AN UP-HILL FIGHT IN OBTAINING EUROPEAN SUPPORT. WHILE THE EUROPEANS, TOO, ARE LIKELY TO EVOLVE IN THEIR ATTITUDES THIS FALL, KATO FELT THAT IT WAS CRUCIAL THAT JAPAN OBTAIN STRONG WEO SUPPORT WHEN THE VOTES ARE CAST.

5. KATO MENTIONED ONE OTHER TACTICAL PERCEPTION WHICH MAY ULTIMATELY BE RELEVANT. HE SAID SOME IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE HEAD-TO-HEAD COMPETITION BETWEEN JAPAN AND BANGLADESH MAY EVENTUALLY HAVE THE EFFECT OF NULLIFYING BOTH CANDIDACIES IN ASIA AND THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. IN THAT CASE, THIS ANALYSIS RUNS, MONGOLIA COULD AGAIN BECOME A MAJOR FACTOR. KATO SAID THE JAPANESE BELIEVE MONGOLIA HAS NOT GIVEN UP HOPE THAT

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

THE SITUATION WILL PERMIT ITS ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL. KATO DID NOT KNOW CURRENT SOVIET AND CHINESE ATTITUDES TOWARD THIS PROSPECT.

6. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO INFORMATION WHICH PROVIDES A CLOSE EVALUATION OF KAISER'S CLAIM REFTEL THAT BANGLADESH HAS THE SUPPORT OF ALL 38 ASIAN GROUP MEMBERS EXCEPT THREE OF THE ASEANS. WE TEND TO DOUBT THAT IRON-CLAD COMMITMENTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY THAT MANY AT THIS STAGE. IN ANY EVENT, WITH JAPAN ACTIVELY PURSUING ITS CANDIDACY AND DETERMINED TO FORCE A VOTE, THE ASEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 03057 02 OF 02 290001Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 HA-05 /105 W
----------008605 290010Z /13
R 292356Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2721
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03057

ATTITUDE WOULD SEEM TO MAKE IT UNLIKELY THAT BANGLADESH CAN ACHIEVE A CLEAR REGIONAL GROUP ENDORSEMENT (EXCEPTING JAPAN, OF COURSE). WE THEREFORE AGREE WITH KAISER (PARA 3 REFTEL) THAT THE ISSUE APPEARS LIKELY TO BE DECIDED BY SECRET BALLOT.

7. KATO'S REMARKS ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE WEO GROUP STRIKE US AS SLIGHTLY DEFENSIVE AND OVERLY PESSIMISTIC. WHILE THE WEO'S ,LIKE US, ARE UNLIKELY TO PROVIDE PRIOR COMMITMENTS, WE DOUBT THAT THE BANGLADESHI ARGUMENT INVOLVING ITALY WILL HAVE MUCH EFFECT ON WEO DECISIONS ABOUT JAPAN. THE DEPARTMENT HAS OTHER REPORTS INDICATING THAT THE MAJOR WEO'S ARE NOT PREDISPOSED AGAINST JAPAN, BUT BELIEVE THAT ANY INDICATION OF SUPPORT AT THIS STAGE MIGHT BE THE KISS OF DEATH FOR JAPAN'S CANDIDACY. WE WILL BE CHECKING THE ATTITUDES OF OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. YOUNG

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN03057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780311-0046
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978077/aaaaafqv.tel
Line Count: 169
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 55490477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 189826
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2037204
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BANGLADESH CANDIDACY FOR SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT
TAGS: PORG, BG, JA, US, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/55490477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014